

V. INTERNATIONAL SCALE OF RIVER DIFFICULTY

If rapids on a river generally fit into one of the following classifications but the water temperature is below 50 degrees F. or if the trip is an extended trip in a wilderness area, the river should be considered one class more difficult than normal.

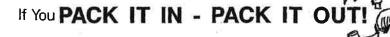
RATING	ALWAYS SCOUT AHEAD FOR HAZARDS
WHITE WATER	RIVER OR INDIVIDUAL RAPIDS CHARACTERISTICS
CLASS I	Moving water with a few riffles and small waves. Few or no obstructions,
CLASS II	Easy rapids with waves up to 3 feet and wide, clear channels that are obvious. Some maneuvering is required.
CLASS III	Rapids with high, irregular waves often capable of swamping an open canoe. Narrow passages that often require complex maneuvering. May require scouting from shore.
CLASS IV	Long, difficult rapids with constructed passages that often require precise maneuvering in very turbulent waters. Scouting from shore is often necessary and conditions make rescue difficult. Generally not possible for open canoes, Boaters in covered canoes and kayaks should be able to Eskimo roll.
CLASS V	Extremely difficult; lorig, and very violent rapids with highly congested routes which nearly always must be scouted from shore. Rescue conditions are difficult and there is significant hazard to life in event of a mishap. Ability to Eskimo roll is essential for kayaks and canoes.
CLASS VI	Difficulties of Class V carried to the extreme of navigability. Nearly impossible and very dangerous. For teams of experts only, after close study and with all precautions taken.

For additional information about canceing and kayaking write to:

American Carroe Association P.O. Box 248 Lorton, VA 22079

OF

American Whitewater Affiliation P.O. Box 1483 Hagerstown, MD 21741-1483



PLANNING YOUR RIVER TRIP

The St. Joe River contains over 120 miles of free-flowing river which offers challenging adventure to canoers, kayakers, and rafters. All types of water can be encountered, from raging white water suitable only for teams of expert kayakers, to placid meanderings for the beginning canoeist.

This folder has been prepared to help you select a river trip on the St. Joe which is suited to your abilities and desires. The difficulty rating assigned to each trip is based on average July and August water levels. During spring runoff from March through June the difficulty of running the St. Joe increases at least on full grade.

For further information, contact the District Ranger at Avery or St. Maries.

ST. Joe Ranger District

Avery HC Box 1 Avery, ID 83802-9702 Voice/TTY: (208) 245-4517 222 S 7th St., Suite 1 St. Maries, ID 83861 (208) 245-2531

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St. Joe River Float Trips



St. Joe Ranger District